

THE DEBATE

RELIGION VS. SOCIALISM

What is the answer? I will tell you. What is the answer? (Applause.) The answer is that we must do something about it and the poor answer.

"A movement seems to have started up to save the world!

"The movement is against the golden rule.

"Are we to give up our slaves?" But the

Christian system, under which we live,

which determines the character of re-

ligion and dominates the church makes

this impossible; it can't be done; it is not

done, not even by those who combine the

greatest pietists with the greatest prop-

erty owners. (Applause.)

"Now then, the mission of Jesus, if

he had any, was to abolish that form

of human slavery that existed in his

time. The mission of the church is to

perpetuate slavery.

"Allow me briefly to refer to another

clergyman who takes exception to my

Labor day remarks. Rev. R. B. Ingram

of Simpson Methodist church. That

gentleman says: "The church of Christ

cannot take sides socially on the side of

labor, any more than it can take sides

with capital as opposed to labor [mean-

ing the poor]. Now look at that care-

fully. Why can not the church come

in with labor?" Did Jesus say it

couldn't? Did he? Mark this: Capital

is a mill, mine, machine-property. It

is a man, a human being with heart

and brain, with feelings and aspirations,

and the preachers tell us, with a soul

to be 'saved.' It is plain that Mr. In-

gram upholds the attitude of the

church, which has always been for prop-

erty and against man. He says: "The

church is for the rich and poor, the la-

boring man and the capitalist," and he

might have added that the capitalists—

even non-Christian capitalists—have al-

ways been for the church. (Applause.)

But we are not through with Mr. In-

gram. He says further that "The fact

that Jesus was a carpenter shows that

the church was meant to include work-

men. And the fact that he had no

home, but something better, is the reason

why he followed the commandments of God.

But there is another commandment:

"Thou shalt not steal." The church sup-

ports, defends and profits by a system

that is based on stealing; a system that

steals the surplus values of the products

of the working class and reduces that

class to slavery. It was another clergy-

man and a missionary who told that

shameful story of the looting of Pekin,

when the representatives of all the reli-

gions of the great civilised powers there

assembled banded themselves together for

robbery, plunder and murder if nec-

essary. "Thou shalt not steal!"

"Again, this religion gives us the

Lord's prayer. In that the masses have

been taught to say, or the attempt has

been made to have them say 'Our father

who art in heaven—the kingdom com-

give us this day our daily bread.' But

the church says that to bring about such

conditions as Socialists want is impossi-

ble; human nature won't admit of it.

Then why don't they quit praying "Thy

kingdom come?" How do they know

what human nature will admit of if it is

not given a chance? The religion that

has been taught it has not been a

close connection. Whatever despots do

in the past, the clergy has found

texts to justify the crime. Whatever

economic despots do in the present meets

with the cordial endorsement or coward-

ice of the same class. (Applause.)

"Religion has always been used to

keep the people in bondage. Between it

and despotism there has never been a

close connection. Whatever despots do

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economic despots do in the present meets

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"Religion was once a social institution

but only those could gain an entrance

who were subservient to the secular

powers and opposed to the spirit of

democracy and the people's cause. How

many ministers of our time can retain

their positions if they speak out in be-

half of an outraged humanity? Few in-

deed; and why is it so? Because they

must preach for the rich and at the

poor.

"Has the Christian religion, the religi-

on of Jesus, for which so much blood

has been shed, for which so many have

contested in the conflict of piety hate

him? Has it realized the happiness expe-

rienced by the masses of the world?

Living under a form of slave-

ry more unjust than any previous form

because of the unquestioned ample facil-

ties to provide plenty and happiness for

all. By virtual admission of nearly ev-

ery thinking person, by admission of the

clergymen and laymen themselves whose

lives are sealed by the hypnotism of a

profit system, Christianity is but Dead

Boss fruit after all. In the supremacy

of individual interest the millennium was

to be realized.

"What is the result? What is the

result of all this? What is the result of

the religious domination of the world?

It is the result of the rich oppressing

the poor, the capitalist oppressing the

working class, the landlord oppressing

the peasant, the priest oppressing the

masses. (Applause.)

"The church is afraid of Socialism.

Why? Because it is opposed to all the

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The Glass Struggle.

Several clergymen of St. Louis are organizing the workers of their church.

A local labor union of Terre Haute has elected Eugene V. Debs as its leader.

Contracts in St. Louis granted the men over and water pipe laborers eight hours a day. Ten hours has been agreed upon.

At Trenton, N.J., was the 8-hour day, after being on four weeks.

Conditions of trade in the state report improving conditions.

Machine that weighs, counts and packages come to being placed in Chicago. It does the work of six men.

New York is an agricultural country. Three-fourths of the population engaged in the cultivation of the soil. Newark is the only city of any size.

Hours of clerks in the United States bureaus have been increased from a half hour per day. The men will receive \$15 extra per month.

New York elevated railways are a third rail and will substitute safety for steam power, and the \$3.50 engineers will be supplanted by men.

Paul Corcoran, the miner who was sentenced to a long term of imprisonment on charges of murder during the late troublous days at Mohave, was pardoned on the 15th after serving two years.

Over 600 mill operatives at Tupper Lake, N.Y., struck recently for shorter hours. They complain that they are compelled to work from 6 o'clock in the morning till 6 o'clock in the evening.

Building mill workers at Hoboken have voted a reversal of the ruling of the court which enjoined them from picketing and now have their men regularly where they will do the most good.

But Wayne has 47 unions in a flouring condition. The only strike reported has been successful. The Horsemens' union an average increase of 40 per cent and the Cigarmakers \$1.50 per week.

Eleven contractors of the country organized the National Union of Electrical Contractors at the convention held in Pittsburgh. Seven cities in 50 states are represented in the new organization.

Local organizations of Minneapolis, St. Paul, and the like movement in that city were never in better condition. They have over 50 local unions, and, with the exception of two or three, they are all affiliated with the A. F. of L.

A new machine for bookbinding has been placed on the market. With two hands and one-half horsepower it can bind 17,000 books of twenty-five "signatures" each per day. It does the work of 100 men.

Z. G. Martin, an authority upon the subject, finds that 100,000 people are employed in telegraphy, 26,000 by Bell telephone companies, 150,000 in electric light plants, 150,000 on street railways operated by electricity and 150,000 in electrical factories.

Ban Francisco Advance: Among the other functions of Mr. McKinley since the dastardly attack on him at Buffalo is to serve as a boycottor for the stock exchange. One of the local bulletin boards had it: "Pulse 98; temperature 100; respiration 28; stock exchange firm."

A big hot trust is forming pads of the purposes announced. To abolish nearly all traveling salesmen and have a central office in New York through which the trade is to be supplied. Some of the hatmakers also fear that an onslaught will be made on the union label.

A Boston man has invented a machine which produces forty-eight loaves of bread in ten minutes, while under the old hand process it required four hours to produce thirty-nine loaves of bread from the same amount of flour. Thus labor displaced by machinery goes steadily forward.

The striking tinsplate workers who have refused to abide by the agreement made in New York between President Shaffer of the Amalgamated association and the officials of the subsidiary companies of the United States Steel corporation are expected to leave the Amalgamated association and form a separate union to be composed entirely of tinsplate workers.

The post office department has just made a ruling that publications owned by societies and trades organizations cannot be sent through the mails at reduced rates where advertisements other than those for such societies are published. This decision hits national and some central labor bodies hard. It is only further evidence that there is an organized attempt being made to cripple and destroy labor unions.

P. J. McGuire, the former secretary-treasurer of the Brotherhood of Carpenters, has issued a circular letter in which he attempts to throw the blame of his removal from office on the Socialists. In view of the fact that most of the executive officials of the brotherhood are Socialists, McGuire is resorting to his subtleties. Probably the other side, unswayed by Mr. McGuire's boasting of what a great man he has been, can reveal some interesting facts.—Cleveland Citizen.

There are thirty-six professional grave diggers in Los Angeles receiving from \$12 to \$2 per day. One man can dig an average of two graves in four hours and this day's labor—TWO HOURS IN THE GROUND—are sold for the sum of \$12. This price does not purchase the ground, remember; that is an old story, but is simply the value of a day's labor's worth, with pick and shovel.

They get \$2. Give us this day our daily bread. Capitalist!

The World's Work is almost exclusively an "Exposition number," and contains an excellent description of the mechanical marvels exhibited at Buffalo. The time seems near when men will no longer need to do anything with their hands as instruments of strength.

The task of all may easily be done by machines in the ideal completeness of their adaptation. Man will then be enabled to do more muscular labor, and his hands and time free to do only those of skill. Work that is now done will become machine work.

It is a revolutionary step in human society, by electricity, and the working machine by which an author uses a keyboard like an ordinary type writer turns out "copy" in the form of a book, which is fed into a linotype that prints 5000 cms an hour at a cost of 12 cents per 1000 cms.

The Coast Seaman's Journal of San Francisco has the following on the great strike there:

At the close of the seventh week of the great strike in San Francisco the situation stands as it has stood from the beginning, with the elements of success on the side of the City Front Federation, and failing it more and more. The men on strike continue to hold out, and it is won. The resources are increasing, while the opposition movement has been im-

SOCIALIST PARTY NEWS.

Illinois State Convention.

The Two Parties Unite and Adopt the State Constitution — The I. A. V. of the Appeal to Reason Scheme Abandoned.

The state convention of the Socialist party of Illinois met at the Socialist temple, Chicago, on Sunday, September 22, 1901, and was called to order at 10:55 a.m.

J. B. Smiley was elected temporary chairman and Philip S. Brown temporary secretary.

On motion, the convention voted to elect a committee of four on credentials, and Comrades Westphal, Knox, Kerwin and Morris were elected.

On motion the convention also voted to elect a committee of four on rules and Comrades Brown, Evans, Carr and Smith were elected.

The convention then took a recess until 12 m.

On reassembling the committee on rules reported the following order of business:

1. Report of Committee on Rules.

2. Report of Committee on Credentials.

3. Election of a permanent Chairman and Secretary.

4. Election of Committee of seven on Constitution.

5. General discussion on resolutions while the Committee on Constitution is in session.

6. Report of Committee on Constitution.

RULES.

1. No person to speak on the same subject more than once.

2. No person to speak longer than five minutes at one time.

3. Adoption of Hubert's Rules of Order as herein modified.

The report was amended by adopting the rule that the members of the joint committee calling the convention should be seated as delegates.

The report of the committee on rules was then adopted.

The resolutions, which were unanimously adopted by a rising vote, were as follows:

"Whereas, William McKinley, the President of the United States, has been shot by an Anarchist in Buffalo in a most cowardly manner while he was shaking hands with the assassin, and

"Whereas, There is even less excuse for horrors of that kind in this country than in any other, because for the first time in the history of the world the oppressed class has the same fundamental rights as the ruling class, namely, the right of the ballot; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That we hereby give expression to our deeply felt pain at and disgust and contempt for the despicable conduct of the Anarchist in Buffalo, and, furthermore, be it

"Resolved, That we call upon the Right to Life League to withdraw its right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness from the Social Democratic party with headquarters at Springfield, Mass., and 42 delegates representing 25 branches from the Social Democratic party with headquarters in Chicago.

The report was adopted.

The convention then voted a permanent organization by the election of James B. Smiley as chairman and Charles H. Kerr as secretary.

On motion it was voted that an assistant secretary be selected from the delegates representing the S. D. P. of Chicago. As 8. D. P. delegate then responded that there was no desire on the part of his delegation for such a representative and the matter was dropped by common consent.

The convention then proceeded to the election of a committee of seven on constitution.

By agreement three members of this committee were elected by delegates from the Social Democratic party of the Comrade Smith received 41 votes, Wanhoppe, 42 votes, Richter, 31 votes, Morris, 20 votes, and Evans, 11.

Three members of the committee were then elected by the delegates from the S. D. P. with headquarters at Chicago: Comrade Brown received 26 votes, Comrade Westphal 25 votes, Comrade Carr 23, and Comrade Winnen, 10.

Comrade Sissman was unanimously elected by the delegates at large, and Comrades Smith, Richter, Wanhoppe, Brown, Westphal, Carr and Sissman were declared elected as members of the committee.

Comrade Evans then moved that a committee of three be elected to draft resolutions regarding the arrest of Comrade Leichter for speaking on the street to expand the attempt of the Tribune to confuse socialism with anarchism, and asserting our right to hold public meetings.

On motion it was voted that the names of Comrades Berlin, Evans, Knox, Richter, Sissman and Westphal be submitted to the locals.

The motion it was voted that the state executive committee of the Social Democratic party, with headquarters at Springfield, Mass., and that of the Social Democratic party in Chicago be requested to turn over their assets of all kinds to the provisional executive committee of the Socialist party.

The convention then adjourned.

Members of the Federated Trades regard the action taken in Washington in regard to the Schlitz brewery matter as putting an end to the boycott instituted by the Building Trades council. One of the parties to the statement issued by President Gompers was National Secretary Spencer of the plumbers, and as the plumbers caused the original boycott to be placed on the brewery, the fact that Mr. Spencer does not countenance it is taken to mean that it has no force and effect.

Socialism in Japan.

Just now Socialism is much talked of in Japan. This was caused by the formation of the Social Democratic party, which took place on the 20th of June, though it was instantly suppressed by the government, and the newspapers that published the manifesto of the Social Democratic party were confiscated as being anti-socialist.

Right after the formation of the Social Democratic party was quickly made into the front and it is now more discussed by the papers and magazines.

The reason for publishing the manifesto and platform of the Social Democratic party was mainly because of the fact that the Social Democratic party was quickly made into the front and it is now more discussed by the papers and magazines.

The Social Democratic party was given up. Many delegates

however favored some expression on the subject and Comrade Kerr offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

"Resolved, that the Socialist party of India congratulates the author of the Appeal to Reason on his decision to abandon the organization of a secret political society and that he calls upon all Socialists to put their energy into the work of the party itself."

The general committee on resolutions was then called to order. The report of the committee on resolutions was given up. The present writer was then asked to be responsible editor of the "Labor Word."

There are two or three daily papers in the city of Tokyo that have been advocating Socialism. All are influential papers and consequently they contribute a great deal toward the cause.

Thus the labor movement in Japan has been making a steady progress. The suppression of the Social Democratic party turned out the best means of waking up the people and the Socialists association which has been existent for three years has lately taken up the work and there is now hope of success. Working people will hereafter meet on the first and third Monday of the month at Kaiser's hall.

A Democratic state committeeman in Massachusetts, George A. Mahoney, has resigned his office and declared for Socialism.

Comrade Morris Hillquit spoke on Socialism at New York September 25, under the auspices of the Social Democratic Women's Society.

A mass convention of the Socialists of Oregon was held at Salem September 25, for the purpose of effecting a permanent state organization.

Comrades Mr. and Mrs. George D. H. Abbott applied for Europe on the 12th for a few months rest. The trip is taken on the advice of Comrade George Abbott's physician.

Applications for charters have been received at national headquarters from Winfield, Kan., South Omaha, Neb., Dothan, N. H., Bessemer, Ala., Birmingham, Ala., and Lamar, Mo.

Comrades at Oakland, Cal., have issued a four-page leaflet entitled "The Reason Why and Why Not," by M. W. Wilkins. It is being extensively distributed throughout the state.

Comrade G. H. Lockwood has been elected organizer for the party at Minneapolis and the local branch is growing.

Comrade F. G. Strickland spoke at Toledo in Mayor Jones' "Golden Rule Park" on Sunday afternoon, September 7, and also held several street meetings in that city.

At a meeting of the city committee of Milwaukee, Monday evening, a committee was elected to make preliminary arrangements for a grand entertainment and ball in October.

Comrade Anna Ferry Smith, who is affectionately remembered by old comrades of the Social Democracy, is again affiliated with the movement, having joined the local branch at San Diego, Cal.

Comrade (Mrs.) E. F. Orr, formerly of Muncie, Ind., has moved to Akron, Ohio, where she will be heard from in behalf of trades unionism and Socialism. Muncie's loss is Akron's gain by this change.

Under the caption "Official" in The Worker of New York, we find this notice: "The Socialist Literature Co., 184 William street, New York city. The Party's Literary Agency." Who was this "agency" created and by what authority?

The comrades at Indianapolis have nominated the following ticket: George Miller, city clerk; L. F. Turner, police judge; Oscar C. Johnson, recorder-at-large; Thomas O'Brien,

Sec. 1. The executive committee of the state committee shall be vested with all of the powers and duties of the state committee, except the power to revoke charters; provided that any three members of the state committee may, by a general vote of each committee on any matter or question decided by a majority before the executive committee.

Sec. 2. The state secretary shall be paid a salary to be fixed by the state committee.

Sec. 3. The state treasurer shall be

paid a salary to be fixed by the state committee.

Sec. 4. The state auditor shall be

paid a salary to be fixed by the state committee.

Sec. 5. The state secretary shall be

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